Delay in completion of the major irrigation projects

2213. SHRI MUSTAFA BIN QUASEM: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as many as 48 major irrigation projects were delayed, causing over Rs. 3,500 crores excess expenditure due to inordinate delay on the part of the Central Government in giving clearance on various counts and also due to the dilatory tactics of some of these projects; and

(b) if not, what are the reasons for which these projects were spilled over in the Seventh Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The projects spilled over into the Seventh Plan, owing to, among other reasons, inadequate investigations at the project formulation stage inadequacy of resources difficulties in land acquisition and change in the scope of the projects.

Supply of "Rhizobium Cultures" to farmers

2214. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to the use of "Rhizobium Cultures" in the recent past by the cultivators the production of Soyabean had shot up;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the cultivators do not get adequate quantity of Rhizobium Cultures in spite of their best efforts during the sowing season under the centrally sponsored scheme on National Oilseed Development Project; and

(c) if so, what steps are being taken to produce adequate quantities of cultures and supply the same to the Soyabean cultivators and also to popularise its use among the cultivators?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTUURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Implementing agency of National Oilseeds Development Project are State Governments and there has been no complaint about inadequate supply of Rhizobium culture from farmers.

(c) Question does not arise.

Allocation for soil conservation

2215. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the Central allocation during the Seventh Five Year Plan period to different States for soil conservation schemes in the catchment areas of river valley projects and also for raving reclamation;

(b) whether any survey has been conducted to assess the losses to fertile agricultural lands in Punjab by some disturbances emanating from the Shivaliks; and

(c) if so, what are the results thereof and what measures have been adopted to mitigate the losses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) Total allocation for Seventh Plan for the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Soil Conservation in the catchments of River Valley Projects is Rs. 96.6 crores. Allocation for the States are decided on year to year basis and a statement showing Statewise details of such allocation made during the first three years of the Seventh Plan is enclosed. (*See* below).

For ravine reclamation, allocation of Rs. 12 crores has been made for 1987-88 as special Central assistance for problem districts of Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan.